



Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
Senedd Cymru

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11 March 2021

Dear Chair

I am writing in response to your to your letter of 16 February about the circumstances in which a postponement of the Senedd election may become necessary.

The Minister for Housing and Local Government published a Written Statement on 5 March setting out the criteria, which will be used to determine whether the postponement of the election is necessary. The criteria set out the broad principles, which will be used to inform balanced judgements and are designed to allow for the flexibility needed in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The Written Statement is available at: <https://gov.wales/written-statement-criteria-be-used-first-minister-determining-whether-it-necessary-or-appropriate>

The Welsh Government remains committed to the election proceeding on 6 May and we are supporting Returning Officers and electoral administrators to take action to mitigate risks associated with running the election during the pandemic.

Best wishes

**MARK DRAKEFORD**